

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## EUROPE REGIONAL MEDICAL COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

CMR 442 APO AE 09042 U.S. ARMY HOSPITAL – NACHRICHTEN KASERNE POSTFACH 103180 69021 HEIDELBERG, GERMANY DSN 371-3317/3049 TEL. 06221-17-3317/3049 JERI CHAPPELLE CELL – 0162-270-0456

Sept. 12, 2006

## Health Information Privacy

Availability of Your Notice of Privacy Practices

Is the protection of your health information important to you? Do you want to protect your rights to health information privacy? Do you know what those rights are?

Most of us answer 'yes' to the first two questions without hesitation, but how about that third question? Do you know where you can read about your health information privacy rights and protections?

As of April 14, 2003, healthcare plans and providers were required to provide patients with a Notice of Privacy Practices. The notice describes how your medical information may be used and with whom it may be shared. It also describes your rights and how to file a complaint if you believe your rights have been violated. The provision of the notice is a requirement of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

Please take a moment to review the Military Health System Notice of Privacy Practices and share it with members of your household receiving care at a military treatment facility or through the TRICARE managed care network. It is important to us that you are fully aware of how we may use and disclose your health information and that you notify us if you have any concerns. The notice is available in multiple languages. To obtain a copy

- ➤ Contact your military treatment facility (MTF) HIPAA Privacy Officer or access your MTF website, or
- ➤ Go to <a href="http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tmaprivacy">http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tmaprivacy</a>, or
- ➤ Mail a written request to TRICARE Management Activity, Privacy Office, Five Skyline Place, Suite 810, 5111 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3206